



Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League's Thrift Shop Successful for Nearly 30 Years

Back in 1974 Mrs. Sheila Coronella, a Fanwoodian, believed that a store to resell used clothing and bric-a-brac would well serve the communities of Fanwood and Scotch Plains. She enthusiastically engaged the interest and energies of local women to form the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League which is the organization that has been operating The Thrift Shop at 1730 East Second St. in Scotch Plains for almost thirty years.

To be successful The Thrift Shop needs the support of donors who contribute used clothing that is still serviceable and has value to a second user. Because the Service League is a non-profit organization, the donations it receives are tax deductible. To receive, sort, price, and present for sale all types of women's, men's, and children's clothing as well as bric-

a-brac, there is a cadre of sixty volunteers who are organized into eight different shifts to cover the five days of the week that the shop is open.. There is a designated manager for each

day of the week to make merchandising decisions and to manage the inventory. The top management of the F-SP Service League organization was recently changed from a single president to a committee of three.

In addition to the large base of faithful donors and dedicated volunteers The Thrift Shop is dependent on the allegiance of many customers who continue to find very good garments at very attractive prices. Many of the customers are 'regulars' who are drawn to

the shop to find all forms of "treasures" that appear among the steady stream of offerings on its inviting selling floor. Often times a transaction at the shop is a social event between the customer and the volunteer who have developed a casual

friendship over the years.

The Thrift Shop needs a store building to transact its business. In its almost thirty years of existence it has been in three locations, all of them within a block of each other on East Second St. A monthly rent in the range of several thousand dollars is the principal expense in the operation. The building provides the selling floor, a merchandise processing area and a place for storage.

The distinctive flair, the artistic touch, and the color coordination of the The Thrift Shop's window display is its signature feature. If one's eyes are the windows to one's soul, then The Thrift Shop's windows define its personality and character. The shop is well known for its bric-a-brac collections, its Designer's Boutique, its Christmas Boutique, and its Halloween Costume offerings.

The operation of The Thrift Shop is labor intensive because the resale price of the merchandise is a fraction of the original price. The Thrift Shop moves five times or more the physical volume of merchandise to achieve the sales level of a store selling the same merchandise at original prices. Last year The Thrift Shop donated \$40,000 of its proceeds to 31 deserving local organizations that serve our communities.

Mrs. Sheila Coronella, now deceased, would certainly marvel, were she here, at the longevity of its operation and the consistently high level of achievement of the Fanwood Service League and its dedicated volunteers.



A Message From Mayor Louis C. Jung



As I write this, I'm thinking, as I'm sure you are, will spring ever arrive'? Let's hope for a pleasant spring alter this cold, snowy winter we've just had!

Everyone should mark their calendars for the next two months so they won't miss the many upcoming special activities and events in Fanwood. On Saturday, April 12, Earth Day will return after a one-year hiatus due to lack of state funding. This will be our 13th Earth Day event supported by the state's Clean Communities Act.

Join us in the South Avenue Train Station Parking Lot at 8:30 AM as we break up into teams for a spring cleanup of public properties. On Saturday morning April 19" the Recreation Commission will hold its annual Easter Egg Hunt on the grounds in back of Borough Hall. At 4:00 PM on Friday, April 25th the Shade Tree Commission will hold its annual Arbor Day celebration on the front lawn of Borough Hall. Free trees will be given away.

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, at 9:00 AM please join your friends and neighbors for the annual Memorial Service at the Library. There will also be the annual Memorial Day Parade at 10:30 AM beginning in Scotch Plains and ending at LaGrande Park. Another annual event. Memorial Day in the Park, will be held in LaGrande Park immediately after the parade.

Sunday, June 1st from 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM will see an extra special event at the Library, as it celebrates its 100" Anniversary. Activities will be held on the ground of the Library, including a performance by Gram my Award winner Tom Chapin. Sunday afternoon June 8th will see the second annual downtown Spring Fair sponsored by the Fanwood Business and Professional Association.

You can learn more details and specifics on all the above events and

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Fanwood/Scotch Plains Jitney Coming Soon

A joint transportation agency has been formed by Fanwood and Scotch Plains to operate two fully ADA accessible \$90,000 jitneys funded by a Federal Grant and administered by NJ TRANSIT for the purpose of enhancing mass transit.

The agency will consist of a five member Board of Directors composed of Fanwood Mayor Louis Jung, Scotch Plains Mayor Martin Marks, Fanwood Councilman Stuart Kline, Scotch Plains Deputy Mayor Paulette Coronato and John Gurley of Fanwood. The Board will hire an Executive Director/Marketing Manager to be responsible for daily operations and funding.

The jitneys will be used initially to provide transportation for peak-time train commuters. The goal for this phase of the jitney's operation is to alleviate parking congestion at the train station and reduce traffic flow during rush hours. The second phase will be scheduled non-rush hour transportation, e.g., to area hospitals. There is a potential program with the agency-to provide transportation to Children's Specialized Hospital through a foundation grant. Operating costs will be partially funded by the Federal Grant that paid for the jitneys and administered by NJ TRANSIT.

Another benefit of the jitneys as ridership increases is the decrease of air pollution through vehicular traffic reduction. Both downtowns can be connected by the jitneys for seniors, students or anyone else. A goal of the agency is for the jitneys to be partly funded through the use of advertising. This can be accomplished by selling space to local merchants advertising in the jitney schedule. The need to generate funds is the engine that drove the idea of jitney advertising as a goal so that eventually no taxpayer money is used to operate this transportation service. Since the jitneys have a transportation life of about seven years, money needs to be set aside to ensure replacement jitneys are available and service can be maintained and expanded.

A concierge service is under consideration wherein a commuter could call ahead and have most anything available when they get on

the jitney. Dry cleaning, for example, could be dropped off in the morning with the concierge and delivered clean in the evening.

Another goal of the jitney is to try to eliminate the "kiss and drop off" commuters in the morning and the "pick up and kiss" evening cars that are filling up the lot idling waiting for the train to arrive. The jitneys will hopefully curtail this negative air pollution situation.

Other communities have experienced that jitneys also enhance property values as automobiles are confined to the garage and the home owner can take the jitney to the train. Home values increase when they are close to a jitney route.

The process is moving forward so that soon the jitneys will be available for commuters, students, employees, seniors and local businesses. Look for up-coming dates on Channel 35 and the Borough's Web site.

BPAF Schedules Annual Spring Fair

The Business and Professional Association of Fanwood, which now has over 200 interested participants, will hold its Second Annual Spring Fair in downtown Fanwood on Sunday, June 8, with a rain date of Sunday, June 29.

Last year's Fair was a huge success with 125 vendors and over 15,000 attendees from the tri-state area. The BPA worked closely with Advertising Alliance, Inc. to make the first effort an unqualified success for the fairgoers and the Borough of Fanwood.

Vendor applications are available for our local merchants at a discount. More information will be on the BPA Web site, www.Fanwood.biz. The hours of this year's Fair will be from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The wide variety of vendors will again be of a high quality.

For additional information, contact Clayton Pierce at claypierce@aol.com or by phone at (908) 889-4300.

See you at the Fair!

Meet Your Borough Council: Councilwoman Katherine Mitchell

I was appointed to the Fanwood Historic Preservation Commission at a very exciting time. After many years of hard work, it was in the process of declaring a Historic Fanwood Park District. The Council passed a resolution proclaiming the same in November. The next step in the process is for our plans to be presented to the state Historic Preservation Commission by our consultant. When the state approves the proposed district, they will come to Fanwood to hold an open public meeting, particularly among the home owners who are part of the proposed district but also anyone else who is interested. The proposed district is bounded mostly by Martine Ave. and North Ave. Many of the homes in this district have great historical significance either because of their architectural style or their eighteenth or nineteenth century age.

There are some reasons why we would want to declare a Historic District. First, it would increase property values. Secondly, it affords Fanwood a measure of protection against public encroachment. If the County or the State wanted to widen any road in the Historic District, they must petition the State Historic Preservation Commission. Many times the State would rule in Fanwood's favor.

The members of the Fanwood Historic Preservation Commission

have labored many years to meet the guidelines to designate a Historic District in Fanwood. They are concerned, conscientious, caring residents who want to make Fanwood a better place for all of us. They deserve our thanks and appreciation. It has been my honor to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission.

Katherine Mitchell

From The Desk of Linda Stender

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emergency while streamlining their communication abilities with neighboring towns and agencies.

On September 11th, 2001 the coast guard put out a call for "all available boats" to evacuate Manhattan after the horrific attacks on the World Trade Center. The response was heroic, the spirit was determined and patriotic. While the horror of that day has left us scarred, hope survives as we face the uncertainties of our time and go about our daily lives. With hope for a better New Jersey and the spirit inspired by the people who responded to the call for "all available boats", I am confident that working together we will persevere through this dark time and shape a bright and promising future.

Fanwood's 13th Annual Clean Community Day

Saturday, April 12th
8:30AM • Rain or Shine

Meet At South Ave. Train Station Parking Lot

Adults and Children are invited to become "Pick-up Partners" and help clean up litter from the Borough's parks and public lands.

Volunteers will be provided with Earth Day T-shirts, gloves and a handsome canvas tote bag.

Celebrating Our First Century of Service

The Fanwood Memorial Library Turns 100

Fanwood's public library was started in 1899 with a donation of 156 books and \$26 from the private Saturday Book Club which started in 1874, and in 1903 the citizens voted for the establishment of the "Free Public Library of Fanwood", which was located, along with Fanwood's Post Office, in the historic round building at the corner of North and Martine Aves. Today, one hundred years after the library's official incorporation, we're still going strong. There are many plans in the works to acknowledge this important milestone including:

- A commemorative quilt by Paula Pearl and local volunteers
- A Children's Department mural designed and painted by Fanwood-Scotch Plains HS students
- Fund raising for the Centennial Development Fund
- A special fall wrap-up event
- Commemorative banners around town (keep an eye peeled for them)
- The launch of our new online e-Reference Service - *AskDAN*
- Improved handicapped parking
- New parking lot lighting
- And much more.

MAJOR EVENT – On Sunday, June 1 from 11 - 4 pm, Commerce Bank and the Friends of the Fanwood Memorial Library will co-sponsor a family friendly **Town-Wide Block Party** out on the Library lawn. The afternoon will feature:

- A one hour family concert at about 1:00 p.m. featuring nationally known, popular children's performer and Grammy Award winner **TOM CHAPIN**
- The 'official' unveiling of our commemorative quilt and mural
- An afternoon 'Wrap-up' performance by local high school bands of *Absent Minded* and *Ratio of the Fall*

- Free food
- And many other special surprises.

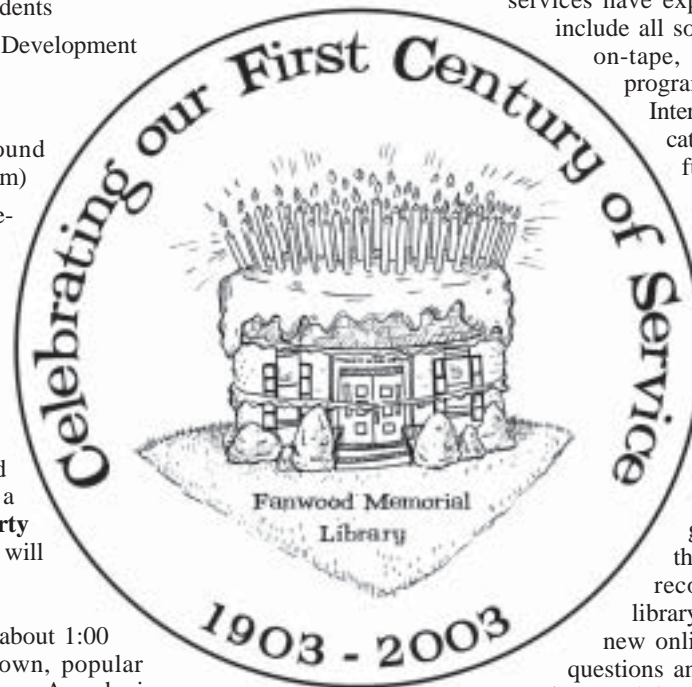
All are invited to this FREE event and everyone is encouraged to bring a dessert to share with each other. Bring the family and the kids and your friends, and join your neighbors in celebrating the first 100 years of the Fanwood Memorial Library.

Come in and check out all we have to offer here in our 100th year of service as we continue to fulfill our mission of providing the community with library services of the highest professional quality. The collection has grown considerably and, in keeping up with the times, those services have expanded far beyond lending books to include all sorts of other materials (videos, books-on-tape, a teen collection, periodicals, etc.), programming for all ages, free access to the Internet and computers, an online web-based catalog, access to online encyclopedias and full text magazine databases, interlibrary loan and reference services, and so much more. All of this remains focused on meeting the evolving and on-going needs of the community for free and equal access to educational, cultural, and recreational information and to promote literacy, lifelong learning and to foster a love of reading.

As we move into our next century, we will soon offer a new DVD feature film collection made possible by a generous donation from the Friends of the Library. We will also begin buying recorded books on CD and expand the library reference services with *AskDAN* – our new online information service. Submit your questions and information needs to Director Dan

Weiss at: askdan@lmxac.org

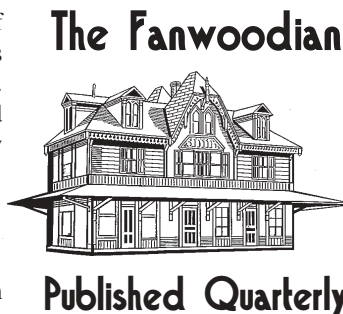
The 100th Anniversary Committee continues to meet at the library and anyone who might be interested in adding their ideas and energy are encouraged to participate. Please stop by or call the Library at (908) 322.6400 for more information about the 100th Celebration or any of our services.



Published by The Borough of Fanwood to keep Fanwoodians informed about their community. Contributions, suggestions and comments are welcome and may be sent to:

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www.VisitFanwood.com
Official Fanwood Web Site

A Message From Mayor Louis C. Jung

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information on other activities in Fanwood by watching TV cable Channel 35 and logging onto the official Borough Web site VisitFanwood.com. You can ask questions about Fanwood government and services by emailing AskBoroughHall@VisitFanwood.com Please take advantage of these communication opportunities.

Mayor Louis C. Jung



From The Desk of Assemblywoman Linda Stender, 22nd Legislative District

As a resident and former Mayor, it is truly an honor to represent Fanwood as part of the 22nd District in the New Jersey General Assembly. In an effort to keep you informed of what is happening in Trenton, I will periodically write a column to update you on state programs and other issues. As your representative, I believe it is important to stay well informed of your concerns. My office is located at 1801 East Second Street in Scotch Plains and is open Monday through Friday 9-5 PM. I can be reached by phone at (908) 668-1900 or by email at aswstender@njleg.org. My staff and I will be happy to answer your questions or assist you with any problems.

To ease the burden on local property taxpayers, the legislature added municipal assistance programs to the state fiscal year 2003 budget. As part of these initiatives, the Borough of Fanwood received a Local Domestic Preparedness Equipment grant for \$80,500. The attacks on September 11th, 2001 underscored all too vividly the need for direct and uninterrupted communication

between emergency workers of all departments. Supported by myself, Senator Joe Suliga and Assemblyman Jerry Green, Fanwood's police, fire and rescue squads will be able to upgrade their emergency communications to an ultra high band system. Our first responders will now have clear, concise and accurate communications when responding to an

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KEEPING FANWOODIANS SAFE... Pictured above in Fanwood Police Headquarters (left to right) are Assemblywoman Linda Stender, Fanwood Police Chief Donald Domanoski, Fanwood Mayor Louis Jung and Fanwood Fire Chief Rick Regenthal.

Fantastic Fanwood Factoids

Answers to questions in
December 2002 Fanwoodian

Question No. 1

What is the name of the very first Mayor of Fanwood?

A: Thomas Young

Question No. 2

What is the name of a future President of the United States who campaigned for that office at the intersection of Midway Ave. and Martine Ave. in 1960?

A: Richard Nixon

Question No. 3

What was previously located on the site now occupied by the A & P on South Ave.?

A: Miniature golf course

Fanwood Borough Hall
75 North Martine Avenue
Fanwood, NJ 07023

Fanwood Community News

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FANWOOD, NJ
PERMIT NO. 16

Earth Day
April 12th

Easter Egg Hunt
April 19th

Arbor Day
April 25th

Memorial Day
May 26th

Library 100th
June 1st

Spring Fair
June 8th

Our Neighbors
Fanwood, NJ 07023